

East Providence Conservation Commission

December 18, 2012
City Hall, East Providence
7:30 PM

Meeting Minutes

Members present: Lorraine Nik (Chair), John Rose (Vice Chair), Wayne Barnes, John Burrige, Marie Esten, Keith Gonsalves, and James Boyd (Secretary)

Member Absent: None

Public present: None

Call to Order - Chair L. Nik called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and requested a moment of silence in respect for victims and families of the Sandy Hook school tragedy in Newtown, CT.

Review of Minutes - The Commission voted to approve the October 16, 2012 meeting minutes on a motion to accept with corrections by K. Gonsalves and seconded by M. Esten. J. Boyd abstained, as he was not present at the October meeting.

Public Comment - None

Planning Department Update

Ten Mile River Fish Ladder update - The Commission discussed the Turner Reservoir fish ladder. The project appears to be completed following loam and seeding late this past fall. W. Barnes indicated that a section of the earthen dam had not been mowed, but ideally it all should be mowed. There was no update on the Omega Pond fish ladder, but the natural gas line location remains an issue for the project design.

City Planning Department - W. Barnes advised the Commission about the Planning Department's relocation in City Hall.

Correspondence - no correspondence

Old Business

Boyden Heights Conservation Area - The Commission discussed accomplishments achieved at the trail maintenance work day on October 27. Commission members cleared brush, fallen limbs and cut back invasive vines along the trail network.

New Business

Land & Water Summit - W. Barnes indicated that he would be participating at the March 9, 2013 meeting.

Conservation Annual Report - W. Barnes drafted the Commission's 2012 annual report for review. Following discussion the Commission thanked Wayne and approved the report on a motion by J. Boyd and seconded by M. Esten.

Commission Appointment Schedule - W. Barnes advised Commission members to check their appointments. Some members may have to seek reappointment to the Commission with their respective City Council representative.

Officer Nominations - K. Gonsalves recommended that the current slate of officers be nominated for re-election at the first meeting of 2013. Chair L. Nik, Vice-Chair J. Rose and Secretary J. Boyd accepted the nomination to serve the Commission. The election will be held at the January 15 meeting.

Adjournment

The Commission voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 PM on a motion by K. Gonsalves and seconded by J. Rose.

The next regularly scheduled Conservation Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 15, 2013 at 7:30 pm in Room A (1st floor) East Providence City Hall.

Respectfully submitted, James Boyd, Secretary